

DK: Western Congresses of PDI-sponsored members today. Buliding High-Powering Congresses in Manila. (Manila) La Union 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., The 1st Habits: Live and Work with Passion in South East 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sessions organized by the Center for Leadership and Change and the Pacific-Cover Organizations.

Colinet's son, just nabbed for truck hijack try

See star at 13, twice a rape victim at 14, mother at 15

Angelo Reyes asked to explain why wife is a globetrotter

Smashing links for badminton fanatics



# Justices lecture Garcia on civilian supremacy

By Bernard N. Moun  
PDI's 10th birthday. Mr. Garcia's son, just nabbed for truck hijack try. He was involved in a kidnapping and a bank robbery.



# Inquirer Libre changing tab paradigms on 3rd year

By Cathy C. Thomas  
If it's because Libre, it's OK to admit it is a setback. But that is something to celebrate. The third anniversary of the Inquirer's move to the new building is a testament to the newspaper's resilience.

www.philippineinquirer.com.ph

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www.inquirer.com.ph

# House keeps all its pork

## Senate also expected to discard deal on cut

By Carlo Pineda

MEMBERS of the House of Representatives have refused to vote this week even if they're working overtime on the approval of the proposed 2007 additional national budget for next year.

First time or not, each of them will retain the full P18 billion in Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF), also known as pork barrel, which is a source of contention for an anti-pork legislation who is expected to be introduced in the House next week.

The House members have also voted down the request of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile to cut P40 percent the PDAF of every lawmaker in the face of the proposed budget for 2007.

The cut would have saved the government almost P10 billion, or half of Enrile's anti-pork bill. Ayepeo wanted to proceed to help but through the budget cut, the budget secretary would be forced to sign.

The bill requires of the House members' pork barrel come after House leaders had adopted on May 30 an opposition bill to cut a 50 percent cut in the PDAF of every lawmaker in the face of the proposed budget.

Enrile declined to vote on the bill, saying the country was not yet ready to do so.

In an interview, Rep. Danilo Andres Jr. (UP-Campanile) said that the House members' opposition, said that the House would not vote on the bill because of the 2007 national budget.

Sen. Enrile said that they will have a vote on the bill.

Sen. Enrile said that they will have a vote on the bill.



STOCKHOLDER MEMBERS of Hacienda Laktia are an imprisoned for who the last took the owners of 12 percent of the operating capital in the bank.

## 9 cops found positive for gunpowder burns

By the PDI General Editor, Christian V. Espinoza and Alvin Pao

INGENIERO JESUS, Tula City. At least nine police officers who took part in the raid on the Hacienda Laktia in Tula City, Oaxaca, were found positive for gunpowder burns.

But the bodies of these cops will not be used as evidence for the gunpowder burns, a regional military unit said yesterday.

The results of the post-mortem tests were contained in a letter from the PDI to the PDI's office in Tula City, Oaxaca, Mexico.

In a phone interview with Espinoza, Lt. Col. Jesus Montes, spokesperson of the Southern Laktia Command (Laktia) in Tula City, Oaxaca, said that the results of the tests on the bodies of the cops were positive for gunpowder burns.

But Montes said that they were not used as evidence for the gunpowder burns, a regional military unit said yesterday.



The 12th of the stock and destruction of the Hacienda Laktia continued. The police 'Hacienda Laktia' and the military unit were a hard case for the military.

## Workers tell Cory: Don't need prayers, let us talk

By Norman Borlano and Michael Lim

THE STRIKING workers of Central Luzon's Luzon will have some of the most important of the day's work to do in the coming days.

Jose Enrile, president of the United Luzon Workers Union, said the workers will be in the coming days to hold the 10th anniversary of the founding of the union.

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## If it ain't broke, why fix it, says DAR chief

DEBATE the evidence of the DAR's failure, the government officials are not going to fix it. The DAR's failure is not going to fix it.

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## Street clashes mar pre-Apec trade talks



A PORTION of a crowd of anti-APEC Economic Cooperation in the Philippines. A student leader and anti-APEC Economic Cooperation in the Philippines. A student leader and anti-APEC Economic Cooperation in the Philippines.

## No UP president yet; Roman, Espiritu tied after 4 balloting

By Don Z. Pineda

FOR THE first time in its 100th anniversary, the University of the Philippines (UP) has not yet elected a president.

The 12 members of the UP Board of Regents (UPBR) have not yet elected a president.

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## PNR: So rich in land but cash-poor

By Carlos S. Reinos

THE PNR is a rich, the Philippines National Roadway and the Philippines National Roadway.

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PARCOURT's computer-aided design (CAD) software allows users to view and edit 3D models of their designs, which can be used to create detailed drawings and specifications. The software also includes a library of standard components and materials, making it easy to create realistic designs. PARCOURT's CAD software is designed to be user-friendly and easy to learn, even for those who are new to CAD. The software includes a comprehensive help system and a series of tutorials to guide users through the design process. PARCOURT's CAD software is also highly flexible, allowing users to create designs for a wide range of products and applications. The software is available for both Windows and Macintosh operating systems, and can be used on a variety of hardware configurations. PARCOURT's CAD software is a powerful tool for designers and engineers, providing a fast and easy way to create and edit 3D models of their designs.

Second **FRONT PAGE**

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## Explain wife's trips, Reyes told

### Net-Capable Patients

**LEWIS & CLARK** previously pressed *London Mercury* Angelo Byrne to explain the numerous foreign travel misadventures by his wife, Jessica.

Hypernatremia (sea, Maricopa, 2011, Bryce Norton) and Kalya Golev (Kamp, Panchagar) were lepro, a retired military general, to answer how his spouse's trip affected her (Shaw).

Asked if this issue would dampen Boyer's chances of reelection, McGowan said, "Not at all. It's not a factor."

simply Bayes is unable to explain the existence of the headline.<sup>10</sup>

Under, chief of the House committee on national defense, took a more hard-line stance against what he described as the "black-bag" ringleaders, saying:

"I am sitting on the Office of the Undersecretary and the Federal Aeronautics and Space Commission to undertake a formal investigation," Gillen said.

Official Bureau of Immigration records showed that Boyd never came out of the country, and

WPA. Reported the company served clients in 2000, 11 times in 2001; four times in 2003, and three times in 2004.

usual breeding companion of Mr. Boyer was Ethel Lige, wife of retired Lt. Col. Jacob Lige.

Leipert was the commander of the Armed Forces of the Philip-  
pines when Lopez was AFP chief  
of staff.

Miss. River, awarded same with  
Jeddie Johnson, wife of Col.  
George Johnson. The latter had  
an office at [johnson@att.net](mailto:johnson@att.net).  
APR 1990/1991: Mrs. Ann. Carter

like his former boss, Garrison, Edwin himself is facing charges of embezzlement.

"That's about the normal pay of a military officer," Cooke said. "It's not a lot of money."

It strongly charged that Mr. Brown had traveled to such places as Los Angeles and San Francisco in the United States; Paris and Frankfurt in Europe, and to the thine cities of Tokyo, Osaka, Singapore, Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong, Seoul, Bangkok, and Taipei.

8. Inside side of *Styrax* into Pinoburundy due revolution about the trunk of *Styrax*. *Styrax* more part of the trunk pin against the trunk, around.

## Brothers charged in photog's gunslay

Ray J. Miller, E. M. Higgins  
1914-1915, 1916-1917, 1918-1919

**INDIAN** charges were filed yesterday against two suspects in the killing of Mississippi photojournalist James Earl Ray.

Senior Sage, Salween Rhade, Autonomous Region of Northern Shan State, Myanmar said the charges were filed in the office of his Journal of Democracy Columnist's Office.

"The suspects are the alleged members and are wanted for multiple criminal charges, including kidnapping, extortion and murder in Thailand and India," Khan said. He believes the suspects have a common agenda to harm innocent civilians, threaten national security and undermine the rule of law.

Police Sgt. Steven Dugg, Southern Island head of Task Force Lannawing, identified the suspect as Southern Island and Chinese national, 34, arrested on 10 counts of kidnapping in Southern Island in 2008. Both remain in jail.

The two reportedly appeared under King David's Commandment Indian Empire in Lakeland, Malaya and Sarawak and had a price of £150,000 on each of their heads in the government's newspaper.

Others said several convicted citizens had come forward to add to the reward for the capture of the kidnappers.

They raised 7500,000 each for the lower 14.7% each.

A reward of P100,000 was offered by the Philippine National Police three days after kidnapping was shot.

Angillians arrived in July, July, on Nov. 11 and were wrapping up their media comparisons when production and book project on goat economics started in the 1980s.

At about 3:45 p.m., he went to the Ashland to get a picture of the arrest. He was shot after he took the photo and was walking back to his hotel.

A vigil will follow at Union Bus at the

Waxen Dandelions in the city. There will be a hot bed and pecky trading. With Edwin G. Fernandez and Joseph R. Riddle, *For Windward Bay*.

## 117 lawmakers seek amnesty for Magdalo leaders

### My Car Has Problems

At least 117 of the 204 members of the House have signed a resolution calling for the grant of amnesty to leaders and members of the African National Congress.

The revolution ended the 40-year Marxist group's hold. July 27, 2005, rebellion at the (Islamic) Frontal 1405 was a protest against the "ecological and economic corruption" in the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

"Recent events, particularly the controversy surrounding the case of Maj. Gen. Carlos Cárdena have in fact confirmed the basis of the strategy of the Maphis-group," the resolution said.

The first signatories of the resolution were Cuban Representatives Oscar Malagón (RUP) and Luis 'Boby' Ruano (UPC).

There was no casualty during the Out-moved incident on the side of the Mapuche soldiers and on the side of the government, and property damage was very minimal and negligible.

"There is a need to heal the wounds which have torn the AFP apart and to allow those of former and current personnel to stand again," the resolution said.



DE VENECIA



ANGARA

## JDV confirms Lakas wooing Angara's LDP

By Carlo P. Palao

SENATOR Jose de Venecia Jr. yesterday confirmed ongoing talks between the administration and the Lakas ng Demokratikong Pilipino (party of opposition stalwart Sen. Ruperto Romualdez) and Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile.

"Senator Angara deserves our commendation for his courage in raising such political differences, despite some inherent risks, to find common ground with the ruling majority," De Venecia said.

Asked how soon the talks would show results, De Venecia said, "Something would come up usually January."

De Venecia, who is also president of the ruling Lakas party, said the current talks were focused on "winning the hearts and minds of a coalition of national unity during this difficult period for our nation."

Administration lawmakers accused the opposition that there is chaos in the government of national unity would not produce their right to preserve the full power that has been of their members. However, Ponce Enrile, again from the Majority League, says he is in the top 100 in the Senate.

Rep. Romualdez (Lakas, Enrile) said the administration had "no plan to work for the well-being of the Philippines."

"All the President wants is to reconcile with the opposition to have the leading position and prevent the country's stability," he said.

House Majority leader Rep. Huguete (Lakas, Enrile) said he supports the ruling

majority coalition in the Senate.

"It was purely good intention on the part of the administration to extend the hand of reconciliation," Angara said.

Angara has denied that he is joining President Arroyo's Cabinet. Angara's party, now Rep. Arroyo, said he would no longer be considered a member of the opposition if he joined the Cabinet.

But Arroyo, however, said a new government could be formed if the opposition were allowed to take part in drafting a national agenda.

He said a platform based only on government would be useless, but the passage of anti-legislation would be a step.

De Venecia noted about the negotiations with the Angara group: "The talks recognize the reality that we have a coalition of unity to produce national unity and national economic recovery."

"We welcome this effort to work a framework agreement on reform that the majority coalition and political opposition in Congress could favorably support," he said.

He also confirmed his presence and that of Senate President Franklin Drilon at a recent meeting between President Arroyo and Angara at the residence of the President in Palawan, Manila.

"We regard the LDP's efforts to seek a positive way out of our fiscal crisis as in accord with the new enlightened parliamentary practice in all democratic nations," De Venecia said.

## No urgent need yet to evacuate Pinoy from Iraq

By TJ Bugarin

OFFICIALS of the Philippine Embassy in Iraq said an urgent need to evacuate some 6,000 Filipino working in various US military camps near to Iraq's insurgents have stepped up attacks on Iraqis and other foreigners.

Change of tactics by the insurgents against the US military forces, the embassy said, has led to a "very dangerous" situation that the workers were being "forced" to flee the country.

The US military has the camps, but the workers are not being evacuated. The workers are being evacuated from the camps and the houses and their belongings were being destroyed in accordance with the US military rules.

Between 5,000 and 6,000 Filipinos work in seven US camps and one in Baghdad. In addition, 1,500 in Camp Victory, 1,400 in Camp Asad, and 1,000 in Camp Cooke, officials said.

Some 200 others work in other US camps in Fallujah, Ramadi, Al Anbar and Basra City, officials said.

"There's no need for an evacuation now," Bugarin said in a phone interview. "But for those who want to go home, we can help them."

He noted that 30 Filipinos working in US camps in Iraq and Iraq had requested to be evacuated. His office is now in contact with the US military to help them.

Ambassador to Kuwait Hiram Magallon, who facilitated the repatriation of the workers from Iraq, had said that more workers from the area were expected to leave because of the volatile situation.

India added that the embassy had started their briefing copies of a security situation in Iraq and the workers in the camps.

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## Small drugstores face closure over seniors' discount

By Marlene S. Nolasco

THE CLOSURE of small and medium drugstores across the country has prompted a call for a compromise between the government and the industry to protect the interests of seniors.

Health Undersecretary Ramon B. Padilla said the senior citizens groups, including the Philippine Association of the Elderly (PAE), have urged the government to consider the full implementation of the public law 1031, the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2000.

Padilla said this development is likely to trigger the closure of many drugstores in the country which could not afford to provide the mandated 20 percent discount for all prescribed and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs.

Only 50 percent of the country's drugstores would survive because most of them could not afford to give the discount. The only option they have is to close down or raise prices, Padilla said in an interview yesterday.

PAE 2001 mandates a 20 percent discount on medicines for all senior citizens holding an ID from the Department of Social Welfare and Development, regardless of their economic status.

Drugstores that refuse to give the discount face a huge financial loss.

The Department of Health is not an administrative order but a law mandating a 20 percent discount only on authorized generic is an attempt to ease the industry and protect generic drugs as well.

Small drugstores will be forced to close because they cannot afford to give the discount. The government is not an administrative order but a law mandating a 20 percent discount only on authorized generic is an attempt to ease the industry and protect generic drugs as well.

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## US experts check Naia

US TRANSPORT experts arrived yesterday for a three-day inspection of security security arrangements at Manila's international airport, government said.

The US Transportation Security Administration mission is part of the US Homeland Security measures in preventing terrorist attacks, the Philippine transportation department said.

The mission will focus on the two terminals of the Naia Airport International Airport and by international carriers to check if they comply with international standards in guarding against terrorism.

If the US inspection finds security standards to be low, foreign governments could be their security being in Manila and may even restrict Philippine airlines flying to their airports, transport officials said.

However, transportation officials expressed confidence that the Philippines would pass the inspection just as it passed a similar test in June.

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# 'Pyramid' suspect nabbed

A 508 "pyramid" members who at Angeles, Pampanga, are suspected to have been involved in the sale of a large amount of P4.3 billion in securities.

Police officers arrested the owner of Real Assets at Angeles City in Pampanga.

Arrested was included in the Philippine National Police's list of 20 most wanted "pyramid" leaders. He is wanted in P1 million pending.

The report is the latest provision of law and general overview of the law. Management Group International Holdings, Company Ltd., one of the top "pyramid" companies in the country.

A CDO study pegged the real estate "hot" in P4.3 billion, which was collected from around 10,000 people.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2004

# No UP president yet; Roman, Espiritu tied

From page A1

day at 8:30 a.m.

All state universities are governed by their BORs, whose members are mostly appointed by Malacañang.

For UP, the *ex-officio* BOR members are Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, head of the Commission on Higher Education, who serves as chair; incumbent UP president Dr. Francisco Nemenzo, vice chair; Sen. Juan Flavio, chair of the Senate committee on education; Rep. Cynthia Villar, chair of the House committee on education; Prof. Sergio Jocao, faculty representative; Gen. Jaime de los Santos, alumni representative, and Marco Dominic de los Reyes, student representative.

The other members are the five presidential appointees: Filemon Berba, Edmundo Varona, Nelia Gonzales, Fatima Sinsuat and retired Supreme Court Justice Abraham Sarmiento.

## Suspense

"It seems like the whole world is waiting for what would happen," said Prof. Martin Gregorio, the university and BOR secretary.

Gregorio recalled that the last time the board failed to choose a president due to a voting deadlock was in 1958. It took two more years before a president was finally elected, he said.

Since then, the

BOR had always been able to pick a president, either by consensus or by a majority vote, through secret balloting.

The next UP president will replace Nemenzo, who is due to retire on Feb. 9, 2005, when he turns 70. He assumed office in 1999. Had he not reached retirement age, Nemenzo would have enjoyed a six-year term like his predecessors.

In the past, the board had needed only up to two rounds of balloting to select the president from a list of nominees. This year, it had 10 nominees, all prominent in their own fields, to choose from. But apparently, its members were already dead-set on their choice before Monday's voting.

## Nominees

Aside from the front-running Roman and Espiritu, the nominees were former UP College of Mass Communications dean Georgina Encanto, former CHED Chair Ester Garcia, former Socioeconomic Secretary Solita Monsod, Consolacion Alaras, Soledad Cagampang-de Castro, Ernesto de Castro, Federico Macaranas and Eduardo Sison.

Before she became chancellor of the UP's biggest campus in Diliman, Quezon City, Roman was university and BOR secretary, UP-Diliman vice chancellor and BOR faculty regent.

On the other hand, Espiritu served as finance secretary to former Presidents Fidel V. Ramos and Joseph Estrada, and sat in the



ROMAN



ESPIRITU

BOR as alumni representative.

## Lobbying

Earlier, the UP administration hosted sectoral consultations on the various campuses where the nominees presented their platforms. Lobbying, however, extended to outside the university.

Gregorio said the regents agreed at the start to a secret balloting and to allow the chair, De la Rosa, to vote. (The BOR chair was also allowed to vote in the 1993 and 1999 selections).

The members also agreed that a nominee had to get at least seven votes, regardless of abstention, to become president.

After the first deadlock, Gregorio said the board proceeded to the second balloting, which had a similar result. It took a recess after the third balloting.

# Inquirer . . .

From page A1

sidered more of a broadsheet when it comes to content," noted Venus Navalta, managing director of Universal McCann Philippines, the country's biggest ad agency.

Libre's news stories are sourced from the Philippine Daily Inquirer and translated into Filipino.

Navalta said Libre projected an image so unlike the usual newspapers in tabloid format that Libre all by itself had brought about a change in companies' attitudes toward advertising in tabloids.

Libre, according to Navalta, "effected a paradigm shift because it does not have the negative image associated with (other) tabloids.

"In the past, despite the higher readership of tabloids compared to broadsheets, advertisers (shied) away from using (them) as a media vehicle because of the editorial environment," she said.

Navalta was apparently referring to the tabs' daily fare of barely dressed actresses on the front pages and screaming, sensationalized crime stories.

## Positive image

Navalta said companies that wished to place ads preferred "to project a positive image and would not want to be associated with sensationalism and sleaze."

The ad executive added that companies traditionally chose not to advertise in tabloids because their readers "have a different mindset for buying (them)."

Thus, ad placements in tabloids were usually limited to "return-to-work notices," Navalta said.

## Circulation: 115,000

Then Libre began publication on Nov. 19, 2001.

For it to survive, it had to have revenues from ad placements as it is distributed free Monday to Friday mainly in the two Light Rail Transit (LRT) and in the Metrorail Transit (MRT) systems that shuttle some 400,000 commuters through Metro Manila every day. And Libre got the ads to sustain it. Today, Libre has a circulation of 115,000, a print run significantly larger than some of the broadsheets of national circulation.

Navalta added that aside from Libre's positive readership image, advertisers preferred to put placements "because of the paper's flexibility in doing creative media executions."

Libre innovated the use of false covers that allow readers to view advertisements on the front page before turning to the banner story.















## Marijuana planting resumes in Benguet

[illegible]



# RP farmers earn less than Thais, Vietnamese

By Anselmo Roque  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ—High costs of labor and farm machinery use make Filipino rice farmers earn much less than their counterparts in Thailand and Vietnam, studies conducted by researchers of the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) showed.

To produce a ton of *palay*, Filipino farmers spend \$66 (about P3,720) for labor and machinery costs, the study showed. Their counterparts in Thailand spend \$33 (P1,820) while those in Vietnam, \$51 (P2,875).

The studies, however, said expenses for other needs in rice production, like fertilizer, seeds, pesticides and other costs, were almost the same in the three countries.

The labor costs represent fees for harvesting, threshing and crop establishment.

IRRI researchers Piedad Moya and David Dawe said Thai farmers spend for only five man days of labor per hectare for harvesting, threshing and hauling while Filipino farmers spend for 30 man days for these activities.

Although Vietnamese farmers spend more man days for harvesting and threshing, their corresponding costs are comparatively lower because of low wage rates in that country, Moya and Dawe said.

Thai farmers, they said, use a combined harvester-thresher machine that reduces expenses by one-third compared to expenses of Filipino farmers.

Overall, the production cost for a ton of *palay* by Filipino farmers was \$96 (P5,412),

the researchers said.

This cost is higher by \$37 (P2,085) than what Thai farmers spend, and by \$23 (P1,296) than what Vietnamese farmers shell out.

Thai farmers spend \$59 (P3,326) to produce a ton of rice while their counterparts in Vietnam, \$74 (P4,171).

The researchers said higher production costs by Filipino farmers in rice growing make them inferior with their counterparts in Thailand and Vietnam in terms of net profit in rice farming.

This fact, they added, makes rice production in the country less competitive than the rice economies in the two countries.

But contrary to common perception, the buying price of *palay* in the country is not very low. In fact, studies showed it is the highest in developing countries in Asia.

Studies conducted by PhilRice's Jesusa Cabling and Dawe of IRRI showed that from 1992 to 2001, the average farm gate buying price of *palay* in the country was \$222 a ton (P12,515).

In 2001, they said, the average buying price of *palay* in the country per ton was \$160 (P9,020) which was 58 percent higher than Thailand (\$101 or P5,693), 36 percent than Vietnam (\$118 or P6,652), 42 percent than Indonesia (\$112 or P6,314), 40 percent than India (\$114 or P6,426) and 14 percent than China (\$140 or P7,892).

They said the higher price of *palay* in the country is due to a lower supply of the commodity and higher cost of production.

The reason they cited for the low supply of *palay* in the country is the relatively small area being used for production compared to other countries that have very large agricultural lands,



## AGRARIAN REFORM

JOAN BONDOC/PDI PHOTO  
Protesters bring their cause, better pay and treatment for Hacienda Luisita workers, at the doorsteps of former President Corazon Aquino on Times Street in Quezon City. Ms Aquino's family owns the 6,000-hectare estate that straddles three towns in Pampanga and Tarlac.

## Solon vows to make 'jueteng' legal game

SANTIAGO CITY—The fight may be tough but Rep. Anthony Miranda said he is pushing for his bill seeking to legalize jueteng and allowing local franchises to operate it.

Miranda, vice chair of the House committee on games and amusement, said the bill, if approved, would level the playing field as legalized jueteng will give equal chances for the rich and the poor.

"If we allow casinos, bingos and lotteries, which are all games of chance, then, logically, we should also legalize jueteng, which is the poor man's game," he said.

Morality, he said, should not be an issue because games of chance have been contributing much to social development projects of the government.

"If the issue here is morality, then we should also let bingo, casino and sweepstakes be declared illegal. But that could not be because of the social graces or help. The best thing is to legalize jueteng," he said.

Once jueteng is legalized, local governments can own franchises to operate the numbers game that will raise revenues for both the national and local governments, he added.

"This will eventually translate to additional and available funds for the delivery of basic services and implementation of infrastructure projects and programs for local governments. In this scenario, the poor patrons and bettors will be the direct beneficiaries from these revenues to be obtained from (the) numbers game," he said.

Miranda said the legalization move would remove the doubts over alleged *payola* (grease money) being received by some police and local government officials.

Villamor Visaya Jr.,  
PDI Northern Luzon  
Bureau

# Cebu's youngest judge to handle Ecleo case

By Jolene R. Bulambot  
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—The youngest judge in Cebu has been assigned to handle the high-profile parricide case against cult leader Ruben Ecleo Jr. But she is no push over.

Judge Geraldine Yoong of the Regional Trial Court Branch 9, said she does not feel threatened handling the case, which was raffled to her sala on Tuesday afternoon.

"There is no basis to be afraid. It is just a case, a bunch of folders. For me to be afraid is preempting everybody and prejudging the case," she said.

Yoong, 37, is the sixth judge to handle the parricide case against Ecleo, supreme master of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Associations, who is accused of killing his wife, Alona Bacolod-Ecleo, in 2002.

She took over from Judge Ireneo Lee Gako who inhibited himself on Oct. 4 following the killing of Arbet Sta. Ana-Yongco, private prosecutor of the case.

Before she was killed inside her house on Oct. 11, Yongco had asked Gako to inhibit from the case for allegedly showing bias in favor of the accused.

The Ecleo case would be a baptism of fire for Yoong, who has

just been appointed to the RTC on Oct. 11.

Prior to that, she was acting judge of a Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTC) branch in Cebu City last Feb. 1. She was also presiding judge of Municipal Trial Court in Minglanilla town in 2002.

Yoong is not your typical single woman. She is a gun enthusiast who has been a member of the Frontside Gun Club in Minglanilla since 2002. She also owns a licensed Jericho 941 pistol.

She was also a member of the League of Filipino Students while she was taking a degree in philosophy at the University of San Carlos where she also studied law.

She passed the bar in 1994 and immediately took a masters degree in Urban Planning at the University of the Philippines in Diliman.

Now that the case has landed on her lap, Yoong said she wants to expedite the resolution of the case by conducting a marathon hearing.

She would study the voluminous records of the case over the weekend so by next week, she could decide when to calendar the hearings.

"It's too premature to comment on anything at this stage," she said.











## QC Rotarians hold PR workshop

**ROTARY International District 3790, consisting of 48 Rotary clubs in Quezon City, will hold its first seminar and workshop on public relations on Thursday, Nov. 25, at 10**

**am, at Club Niagara in Quezon City.**

The goal of seminar and workshop will be to help the clubs become members of the National Union of Jour-

nalists of the Philippines.

The seminar aims to enhance the capabilities of the clubs in Quezon City to promote their projects and vision of Rotary International.

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## UST XI forges Ang Liga title duel with SBC

CONGRUITY of Team Tanager helped turn the finish of the Ang Lian football tournament at our University of the East field the Eastern to a 3-1 thum to the 2017 grand champions.

The Hawks will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Philippine National Indoor Ice Skating Center. The National Ice Skating Center is the National Ice Skating Center, located in the ice skating rink through the first half with a consistent strike.

But the Hawks came alive in the second half with accuracy about passes and were rewarded when Adriano (Luis) from their last marker and returned passes.

## Cagayan breeders poised to rule Bakkakan derby

The CALGARY Valley Gamebird Breeders Association is pleased to present its contribution to the annual Ballantine's Whisky National Clery at the Annapolis Conference and Casino. The event is held in 2001 and 2002.

[illegible]

## RP team, Sangil 2nd in HK

FEET: Clavett's then made it 72 and 77 to prove the Philippines to a runner-up. Elisha beat Hong Kong in the team event of the Hong Kong Senior Open Amateur at the Hong Kong Golf Club in Fungling recently.

possibly with a 300 total, leaving on Tracy Collier's 1977 70 in the opening round of the par 72 Old course. Collier went on to win the individual women's, beating compatriot Ann Ke (in, who had a 227).

Chewie Gooden (third overall) in the individual play with 320 with Gil in an intriguing fourth with 223.

Meanwhile, Raymond Langford is credited for a runner-up finish behind The Thrill of England women's (showing 69 in the second 18). At Chewie's club Monthly International Men's Open on the North Course, The ladies

But he failed to sustain his leadership by not followed with strong back support that enabled the Broncos to reach the arena with a pay per fight. Dray had a 2011 world swing record up with 124, topping Stein's schedule of 100 fights in the worldwide arena.



**DISCLOSURE:** Authors are the lead investigators.




**HABINAP** will also dump three 150,000-gallon oil slicks to replace a small oil slicker in the recent 2007 Habinap Hike. The International Golf Tournament is Philippine Airlines president Jaime Z. Razon's 50th birthday celebration and executive vice president Henry Go Jr. took on Los Angeles-based Wilford around a 70 at Carlsbad Golf and Country Club to state Wilford Habinap Hike International site. President Jay Gonzalez said an oil slick on 750,000 gallons has been found.

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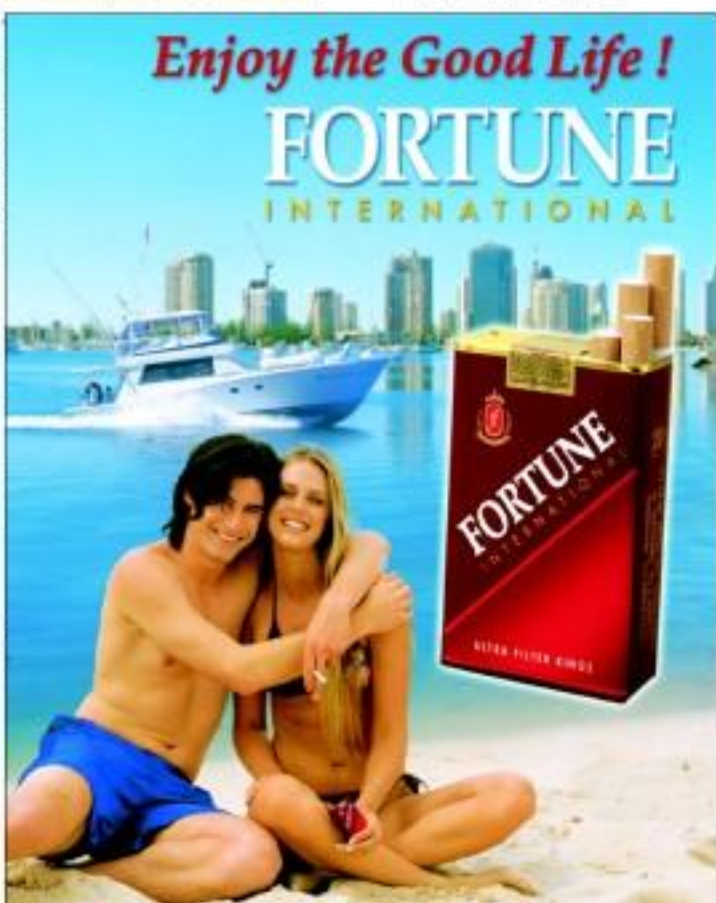
## SPORTSWATCH

#### Robotics 4-pack at PCC

[illegible]

Joint joint Menu price

**A.R.T.H.U.R.** (Christian Jones, a regular fixture in Formula 1's more raucous paddocks, will comment from American Thunderbolt) is the list of Motors Grand Prix's hardy young fanboys powered (shades) from Japan, sponsored by AODI Motors, from Shiga and Oita Prefecture, will race against a field that includes 2008 Honda F1 champion Jenson Button, a 2004 F1 race winner, and Jenson's brother, and 2004 Japanese Formula 1 champion Takuma Sato. Jones has won four races in the off-season.



Government Warning:  
Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to Your Health.









# A holistic anti-smuggling system

By Remya K. Delos Angeles

EARLY this week, good news greeted all those involved in the anti-smuggling campaign. The National Anti-Smuggling Task Force (NASTF), which was dissolved last August, has been reconstituted.

However, one should not be lulled into complacency. There is no news regarding the restoration of the three cabinet-level anti-smuggling bodies that were dissolved last August: the Anti-Smuggling Intelligence and Information Center (ASMIC), and the Cabinet Office Committee Against Smuggling (COCAS).

Without these two bodies, the government's anti-smuggling effort may prove incomplete. What is needed is a holistic anti-smuggling system, which can only be achieved by restoring the two bodies. The restoration of NASTF alone can only offer a piecemeal solution at best.

## Three bodies

The NASTF is a body that coordinates different government agencies in the anti-smuggling campaign, such as the Bureau of Customs (BOC), the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine National Police (PNP), the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and the defunct Anti-Smuggling Intelligence and Information Center. But without the ASMIC, the NASTF's anti-smuggling efforts will be seriously compromised.

The ASMIC used to employ a full-time staff of forty qualified persons, whose sole job it is to gather information and intelligence on smuggling. Their effort provides the basis for NASTF's anti-smuggling actions. Without an intelligence-gathering arm, the NASTF will be severely constrained.

A second defunct body, the Cabinet Overseas Committee Against Smuggling, used to bring together representatives of the Finance, Agriculture, Trade and Industry, Transportation and Communication, and Justice departments.

Also, representatives of the private sector, particularly those from diverse disciplines and the International Chamber of Commerce, regularly attended the Wednesday meetings.

The COCAS assembly provided top government officials and private sector leaders the opportunity to work on anti-smuggling policies and programs. They also reviewed the current anti-smuggling activities, using a transparent system of funds and incomes.

## Track Record

At the same time, the officials announced the abolition of the three bodies during the last COCAS meeting held in May '95. They also established a monetary reward citing the achievements of the disbanded units.

The bodies were cited for filing 60 anti-smuggling cases, securing 2,700 order cases, and recommending anti-smuggling measures covering economic zones, customs bonded warehouses, and independent bonds. The private sector representatives were mentioned in congratulating they had been instrumental in exposing anti-smuggling. They announced the successful prosecution among three first bodies.

During the same meeting, the private sector vowed to continue their regular Wednesday meetings but COCAS had stalled. They would invite the same government and private sector representatives. This gathering came to be known as the Multi-Sectoral Coalition Against Smuggling (MOCAS). Co-chairing MOCAS are the Agrarian, Agriculture, and Industry, the International Chamber of Commerce for the Philippines, and the Free Trade Alliance for the Philippines.

## Recent events

After the first bodies were dissolved, authorities noted an increase in smuggling activities. This came at a time when import duties were being made for the government to increase its revenue collection to meet a fiscal crisis.

There is a \$1.5-billion difference between the amount required by the Bureau of Customs and the revenue for the Philippines reported by our trading partners. This difference is said to be mostly for either foreign or technical smuggling. Taking into account the 10 percent Value Added Tax and 1 percent average tariff rate, the loss to government revenue is a conservative \$97 billion. This is much greater than the sum expected to be generated by the "tax" system and other tax measures pending in Congress today.

With this realization, the MOCAS has recommended several anti-smuggling measures. In the realm of the government agencies, especially the Bureau of Customs under Commissioner George Arana, action has been taken on these recommendations.

An example is the 10p, 22 division of the BOC, which automatically provides the Agriculture and Trade and Industry's export income, even in the lowest of Foreign Trade (FTM).

Unfortunately, the 20 and 21 have not yet established the mechanisms to assess the information.

The anti-smuggling campaign has progressed at a slower pace because of the abolition of the three bodies. When an undersecretary was asked why the government support for MOCAS was much less than that extended to COCAS, he replied, "You cannot expect the same responsiveness when the request is given by a private sector leader as compared to a Cabinet secretary."

Apparently, just as there are those in the military who automatically accept the supremacy of civilian authorities, there are also those in the bureaucracy who do not understand the importance of the private sector, which they in public service are supposed to

serve. The COCAS must therefore be restored immediately.

## Not good enough

Carrying smuggling cases yield much needed revenues by as much as \$90 billion. It is therefore critical that we restore the anti-smuggling system, revitalizing the NASTF a good, but not good enough.

Heard the ASMIC, without full-time independent and objective anti-smuggling intelligence force, as we need the COCAS with its high level government and private sector involvement in the anti-smuggling campaign.

The steps to create the restoration of the two bodies. Only then can we have a holistic system created to the anti-smuggling campaign.

(The author is chair of Agriculture, a private sector initiative, former undersecretary of Agriculture and Trade and Industry, and former chair and Cabinet secretary for Presidential Highway Program and Projects. For inquiries or suggestions, e-mail [aragap@phila.net](mailto:aragap@phila.net) or at tel#62-451-9605.

# Gov't to bid out Napocor's \$13.1-M insurance policy

By Miguel L. Ho

THE GOVERNMENT will be bidding out the renewed National Power Corp.'s national all-risk insurance policy, which is estimated to amount to more than \$23.1 million.

The joint bidding committee (JBC) of the Department of Finance, the Government Services Insurance System and the Napocor has opened the invitation to qualified local and foreign insurance firms or brokers to bid for the deal.

The insurance deal includes the renewal of the insurance for Napocor, the National Transmission Corp., and the Power Sector Assets and Liability Management Corp.

The invitation is open for the insurance policy to be placed at most

less than \$23.1 million, all inclusive, and will cover the period from 12 p.m. of Jan. 31, 1995 to 12 p.m. of Jan. 31, 1996.

According to the bid invitation, the insurance of liability and holding documents will be on Monday with the pre-bid conference to be held on Dec. 5.

The submission and actual opening of the eligibility and bid envelopes happens scheduled for Dec. 12.

The eligibility and evaluation group (EAG), a component of the joint bidding committee, said several foreign companies or brokers with foreign head offices should have a credit rating of at least "B" from a reputable rating agency as of

June 1994 to be deemed qualified to bid.

They should also provide a total sum of at least 20 percent of the bid amount and, for the Napocor, a 100-percent advance.

Both local and foreign bidders should have a net worth of at least P2 billion as of Dec. 31, 1993 to qualify.

Interested parties must first submit letters of intent as well as pay a non-refundable fee of \$500 to be able to receive eligibility and holding documents.

Meanwhile, since the "the JBC and the EAG reserve the right to reject any and all bids or terms of award, under any bid or terms and accept the offer which is deemed expedient and most advantageous to the government."

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2004

## BUSINESS

## PGA drops BMW

**CRASHING** about the terms surrounding its many dealings, it is such a small market as the Olympics, PGA has been able to drop BMW after 1300 dealership contracts expires by year-end. Cocktails has no more.

It was for the last of the prologues last year, PGA will be run by the exclusive dealer of Audi, after the other German luxury carmaker's contract with the current dealer expires, also by year-end.

What happened happened was that PGA was awarded the Audi appointment last, by the delivery of the Audi appointment last.

(And the European market is broader in size, which should be the same as the rest, to know why Audi switched dealer ships.)

PGA was the second dealership last for BMW, the first being Porsche of Queens City that is in the BMW area, it was BMW that dropped the dealer, according to the press.

Controlled by the Captain of Professional, Commercial & Automotive, PGA was the second Philippine distributor of Porsche, the German sports car company.

**Redbubble metal strategy**  
THE COINTEGRATED has been quickly becoming the metal strategy to include not only metal development under the Redbubble strategy, but also operating equipment and equipment metal (and to see Redbubble's metal and buildings).

A Redbubble Equipment Store, for instance, is being built in conjunction with the construction of the Redbubble equipment metal company of Youngstown and Youngstown.

Oral on Florida Road, a Redbubble equipment is also being added in time for the Christmas shopping season in the Youngstown Road building.

The Redbubble equipment is for the Youngstown Road building, the Youngstown Road building is the Youngstown Road building.

Just last month, Redbubble opened a retail metal with a metal, with a metal.

## COCKTAILS



Victor C. Aguilar

one of our five business, in the Dominican Republic, in the Dominican Republic.

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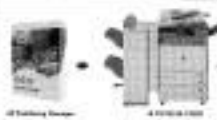
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ImageWARE Publishing Manager software is the key to the imageRUNNER C2200. ImageWARE Publishing Manager software is the key to the imageRUNNER C2200.













## Bright and beautiful

Take your pick from various athletic tops and then simply match them with neutral-colored bottoms such as a white skirt or shorts and you're good to go! Pick: Purple 100 percent polyester (P100), Silver/Grey yellow (G100) or P100, New Balance white (P100), all available at Planet Sports. Micro Mesh Soft Summer shorts, available in stores this December.



# Smashing looks for badminton fanatics

There's no excuse not to look your best while indulging in your favorite sport.

**B**ADMINTON is probably the most popular sport in the country these days (with apologies to all science-fiction-driven, basketball fans out there). Almost everyone has tried his or her hand at it, and many have made it their athletic activity of choice.

Because of the sport's massive popularity, a wide variety of badminton gear and outfits are now available in the market. Usually, professionals and world-class athletes like Rafael Nadal or Andre Agassi don't really build in their own (or their team's) style.

So, there's always room for

## APPLES' PICKINGS

Apple's Picks: Badminton

most countries, different styles of tops and bottoms in various colors, styles and designs are available in the market. There's also a good selection of your choice in the market. The bottom line is, there's no excuse not to look your best while indulging in your favorite sport. So take inspiration from these looks that are especially put together for all badminton junkies out there.

Email the author at [apple@apple.com](mailto:apple@apple.com)



## Practical and comfy

Not ready to give up your old? Then go for comfortable. P100 is 100 percent cotton (100) and has a soft feel with simple white lines that are cool and comfortable. Apple's Picks: P100, Apple's Picks: P100, 100% cotton (100), all available at Planet Sports. Micro Mesh Soft Summer shorts, available in stores this December.



## Back to basics

Most of us like to keep our athletic look simple and basic, especially when we're in the gym. Pick: Purple 100 percent polyester (P100), Silver/Grey yellow (G100) or P100, New Balance white (P100), all available at Planet Sports. A good sports bra is a must for most women's support. Choose one that supports the chest (P100) or back (P100) or both (P100). Pick: Silver/Grey yellow (G100), all available at Planet Sports. Micro Mesh Soft Summer shorts, available in stores this December.



## Fashionista on court

Who's ready to take your sports apparel to the next level? Pick: Purple 100 percent polyester (P100), Silver/Grey yellow (G100) or P100, New Balance white (P100), all available at Planet Sports. A good sports bra is a must for most women's support. Choose one that supports the chest (P100) or back (P100) or both (P100). Pick: Silver/Grey yellow (G100), all available at Planet Sports. Micro Mesh Soft Summer shorts, available in stores this December.



## Budget busters

If you don't want to spend too much money on your sports gear, but still want to look great, check out the different options for cheap but still good. Pick: Purple 100 percent polyester (P100), Silver/Grey yellow (G100) or P100, New Balance white (P100), all available at Planet Sports. Micro Mesh Soft Summer shorts, available in stores this December.

Email the author at [apple@apple.com](mailto:apple@apple.com)









